Weaker Section Housing Programme in Andhra Pradesh

5319. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested to consider and advise HUDCO not to levy 1% additional risk charge for letter of comfort, in lieu of Government guarantee for implementation of Weaker Sections Housing Programme in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested Housing & Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO) for waiver of risk charge of 1% in respect of some housing and Urban Development schemes.

(c) Board of directors of HUDCO has decided to levy 1% additional risk charge in all cases involving Letter of Comfort, in lieu of Government Guarantee.

Construction of Specially Designed Houses for Disabled

5320. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken initiative to construct specially designed houses for the disabled moving on wheel chairs and handicapped persons; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) and (b) One of the aims of the National Housing & Habitat Policy 1998 is to meet the special needs of the desabled. However, housing is a State subject. The Central Government has formulated guidelines and space standard for barrier free built environment for the disabled as well as elderly persons. These guidelines have prescribed construction of a minimum of 2% of the total number of units (in case of single detached single dwelling units) to be constructed with barrier